

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SR-02 ORM-03 OC-06 CCO-00 L-03

DRC-01 /080 W

----- 002147

R 081341Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7660

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS UR US SREF IS

SUBJECT: VISAS FOR SOVIET JEWISH IMMIGRANTS TO US

REF: STATE 069518

1. DEPT IS CORRECT IN STATING, PARA 4 REFTEL, THAT EMBASSY GRANTING OF PRO-FORMA PRE-PAROLE STAMP IS A CONVENIENCE DESIGNED TO PERMIT MORE RAPID IDENTIFICATION OF US-BOUND SOVIET JEWS UPON ARRIVAL IN VIENNA. EMBASSY HAS MADE IT CLEAR TO EMIGRANTS WITH DOCUMENTS FOR ISRAEL THAT WE ARE UNABLE PROCESS THEM HERE AND THAT VISA APPLICATION WILL BE MADE IN ROME, TO WHICH UHS WILL MOVE THEM FROM VIENNA.

2. EMBASSY HAS NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO CEASING GRANTING PRO FORMA STAMPS. EMBASSY CONSOFF ON RECENT TDY TO ROME AND VIENNA FOUND THAT JEWISH AGENCY TO UHS TRANSFER SYSTEM WORKING WELL AND THAT EMBASSY

STAMP AND TELEGRAMS NOTIFYING VIENNA ARRIVALS NO LONGER REQUIRED IN THESE CASES. IT IS EMIGRANTS THEMSELVES, HOWEVER, WHO REQUEST THESE STAMPS, AS JEWISH "GRAPEVINE" HERE (PARTICULARLY IN MOSCOW) STILL HAS IT THAT RECEIPT OF STAMP IS OF ASSISTANCE IN VIENNA. IT MIGHT THEREFORE PROVE TROUBLESOME FOR EMBASSY

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TO REFUSE EVEN THIS MINIMUM FORM OF DOCUMENTATION.

3. EMBASSY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING ANY DETAILS IF IT IS TRUE THAT EMIGRANTS BOUND FOR US HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH FRAUD OR OTHERWISE HARRASSED BY SOVIET AUTHORITIES DUE TO RECEIPT OF EMBASSY STAMP. THOSE VISITING EMBASSY (WHO CONSTITUTE ONLY SMALL MINORITY OF TOTAL FLOW) HAVE THUSFAR EXPRESSED NO RPT NO CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE ADVERSE REACTION BY SOVIET AUTHORITIES. DESPITE RECENT INCREASE IN SOVIET MILITIA INTERFERENCE WITH ACCESS TO EMBASSY ON PART SOME SOVIET CITIZENS, MILITIAMEN HAVE READILY ADMITTED IN PAST FEW MONTHS PERSONS HOLDING EXIT DOCUMENTATION FOR ISRAEL.

4. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE ADVISE EMIGRANTS WITH DOCUMENTS FOR ISRAEL THAT UNDER NEW PROCEDURES INVIENNA, NEITHER PRO FORMA STAMP NOR ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF ARRIVAL IS REQUIRED. UNLESS DEPT ADVISES OTHERWISE, HOWEVER, WE WILL CONTINUE GRANT PRO FORMA STAMPS TO THOSE EMIGRANTS WHO EXPRESS STRONG PREFERENCE TO RECEIVE THEM. (FYI: DUE TO HEAVEY COMMUNICATIONS BURDEN OF EMBASSY C&R AND CONSULAR SECTIONS, WE PREFER NOT RPT NOT TO REINSTITUTE TELEGRAPHIC NOTIFICATION OF EACH VIENNA ARRIVAL.)
EXEMPT
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